

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (once amended) A ventilation system for reducing the amount of anaesthetic released from an anaesthetic administration station into a surgery suite, the system comprising at least one inlet positioned adjacent to [an]at least one area of anaesthetic release from the anaesthetic administration station, and a conduit leading from the inlet to an exhaust.

Please amend claim 2 as follows:

2. (once amended) [A]The ventilation system [as claimed in claim 1, wherein there are]of claim 1 comprising a plurality of areas of anaesthetic release[,] and an inlet [being provided ]adjacent to each area.

Please amend claim 3 as follows:

3. (once amended) [A]The ventilation system [as claimed in]of claim 2, wherein said conduit comprises a main pipe connected at one end to the exhaust, and a plurality of branch pipes, each branch pipe connecting an inlet to said main pipe.

Please amend claim 4 as follows:

4. (once amended) [A]The ventilation system [as claimed in]of claim 3, wherein each [said ]branch pipe includes a valve for regulating flow in said branch pipe.

Please amend claim 5 as follows:

5. (once amended) [A]The ventilation system [as claimed in any preceding claim]of claim 1, further comprising means for entraining air in the form of a fan disposed in the region of said exhaust.

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

6. (once amended) [A]The ventilation system [as claimed in any preceding claim]of claim 1, wherein said surgery suite is a small animal surgery suite, and said anaesthetic administration station is an induction chamber, where animals are initially anesthetized.

Please amend claim 7 as follows:

7. (once amended) [A]The ventilation system [as claimed in]of claim 6, wherein the inlet is provided above the induction chamber.

Please amend claim 8 as follows:

8. (once amended) [A]The ventilation system [as claimed in]of claim 7, wherein the inlet is in the form of an inverted funnel connected to the conduit.

Please amend claim 9 as follows:

9. (once amended) A ventilation system [as claimed in]of claim 6, wherein the induction chamber [~~comprises~~]contains a plurality of compartments, including a first compartment where animals are initially anaesthetized [and ]having means for the supply and removal of anaesthetic, and a second compartment connected to said inlet, the compartments being arranged such that anaesthetic escaping from the first compartment passes into the second compartment and thence to the inlet.

Please amend claim 10 as follows:

10. (once amended) [A]The ventilation system [as claim in]of claim 9, wherein said first and second compartments are joined by a selectively closeable passage.

Please amend claim 11 as follows:

11. (once amended) [A]The ventilation system [as claimed in claim 9 or claim 10] of claim 9, wherein said inlet is at the top of the second compartment, and a lower region of said second compartment is provided with at least one ventilation hole for the intake of air.

Please amend claim 12 as follows:

12. (once amended) [A]The ventilation system [as claimed in any preceding claim] of claim 1, wherein said surgery suite is a small animal surgery suite, and said anaesthetic administration station comprises at least one breathing station where surgery is carried out on the animal.

Please amend claim 13 as follows:

13. (once amended) [A]The ventilation system [as claimed in] of claim 12, wherein [the or each] said at least one breathing station includes an orifice for insertion of an animal's nose, the inlet being provided next to the orifice.

Please amend claim 14 as follows:

14. (once amended) [A]The ventilation system [as claimed in]of claim 13, wherein said inlet is defined at an end of a length of tubing.

Please amend claim 15 as follows:

15. (once amended) [A]The ventilation system [as claimed in claim 12 or claim 13]of claim 12, wherein said inlet is formed as an annulus surrounding the orifice.

Please amend claim 17 as follows:

17. (once amended) [A]The method [as claimed in]of claim 16, wherein said surgery suite is a small animal surgery suite, and said anaesthetic administration station is an induction chamber, where animals are initially anesthetized.

Please amend claim 18 as follows:

18. (once amended) [A]The method [as claimed in claim 16 or claim 17]of claim 16, wherein said surgery suite is a small animal surgery suite, and said anaesthetic administration station comprises at least one breathing station where surgery is carried out on an animal.